



HR1218

LRB095 20869 GRL 49721 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

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WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of Wenona E. Thompson, beloved community servant and friend, who passed away on February 23, 2008; and

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WHEREAS, Wenona E. Thompson was born on November 27, 1975 in Chicago; her parents were the late Johnny L. Owens Jr. and Rosemary Thompson; and

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WHEREAS, In her short life, Wenona E. Thompson went from being a nearly invisible presence in Chicago's Ida B. Wells housing projects to becoming one of Illinois' most passionate and effective advocates for women and girls in the criminal justice system; and

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WHEREAS, Wenona E. Thompson served as Program Director of the Girl Talk Program at the Cook County Juvenile Temporary Detention Center, where she guided, educated, and inspired young women to lead productive lives; and

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WHEREAS, Wenona E. Thompson was a champion for the cause of fighting social and economic inequality wherever she saw it; she used her poetry and public speaking at workshops and conferences across the country to further her beliefs; and

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1 WHEREAS, Wenona E. Thompson understood the importance of
2 education; she demonstrated this by earning her associate's
3 degree at Kennedy King College and her bachelor's and master's
4 degrees at Northeastern Illinois University; and

5 WHEREAS, As the beloved mother of Tennelle Thompson and
6 Shaquille Thompson, Wenona E. Thompson has left a legacy of
7 faith, dignity, compassion, and love; therefore, be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-FIFTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we
10 mourn, along with her family and friends, the passing of Wenona
11 E. Thompson and extend to her loved ones our deepest sympathy;
12 and be it further

13 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
14 presented to the family of Wenona E. Thompson as an expression
15 of our sympathy.